



## **2021-2022 RAMON SPACE OLYMPIADS**

The Israel Arts and Science Academy operates two **National Space Olympiads** each year: For the past 8 years, elementary students (grades 4-6) have experienced the exciting, unique challenges our competition offers. Five years ago, we began a Space Olympiad for middle school students (grades 7-9). Both Olympiads are currently in full swing. The top 10 schools in each of these Olympiads will participate in the finals being held on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Israel Arts and Science Academy.

This year, more than 10,000 Israeli youngsters from all over Israel are actively participating in the semi-finals of each competition. There are 266 elementary schools and 269 middle schools participating. The main goal of the competitions is to arouse curiosity in and familiarize the youngsters with subjects in science and technology by exposing the students to the exciting subject of space. Throughout the year, students participate in five stages of each competition through on-line quizzes. They answer complex questions, participate in activities within their communities, work together in groups and carryout experiments in the classroom.

This year's "**aspiring astronauts**" from elementary schools are challenged with designing an analog space mission performed on Earth for training, experimentation and equipment testing which can advance scientific, technological, educational or social values. This includes building two models: a model of the celestial body they chose to explore and a model of the chosen site on Earth.

"**Aspiring astronauts**" from middle schools were given the mission of planning and presenting a business venture in the field of "space". From branding the company, writing its mission statement to producing a promotional video depicting their digital virtual prototype model of the physical product they plan to manufacture and operate.

*These Olympiads are sponsored and financed by the **Israel Space Agency in the Ministry of Science and Technology in conjunction with the Ministry of Education.***